



July 14, 2006

This Week In Correction

A weekly update of events in the Tennessee Department of Correction

COMMISSIONER'S UPDATE:



Commissioner Little met today with Finance and Administration Commissioner Dave Goetz and representatives from Governor Bredesen's office to talk about three major TDOC projects.

First was the Morgan County expansion project which is currently running ahead of schedule. "The Department is looking at taking possession of the new minimum

security housing unit as early as spring of 2008 which is a full year ahead of schedule," said Commissioner Little. "We will have meetings in the coming weeks to develop a transition team for operations. That will include filling new positions".

The second project is the Bledsoe expansion of STSRCF.

The department has recommended proceeding with the new water line in Dayton, TN and the upgrade for electrical service in anticipation of the Bledsoe expansion going forward next summer. "We are working hard to make sure our design will meet current and future needs for the department", said Commissioner Little.



July 06

Morgan County Expansion

60

The third discussion focused on TRICOR and their proposed training center and warehouse facility on Cockrill Bend. According to Commissioner Little, "We will be working with staff in Middle Tennessee to come up with ideas for the transition center and how we can better work with TRICOR for prison industries and prison re-entry services."



ALL EYES ON BRUSHY:



A crew from MSNBC brought its cameras to **BMCX** this week to begin shooting a segment for the network show, "Lockup".

The show will focus on Brushy's rich history and how the warden and staff run such a tight ship.



They'll also look at life behind the wall for inmates.



Producer Hillary Heath arrived at **BMCX** on Monday. She and a three man crew plan to spend the next week looking at the facility and different programs.

The show is tentatively scheduled to air sometime this fall and is expected to feature interviews with Warden Jim Worthington, Commissioner Little, **BMCX** staff and inmates.



We will let you know when an air date is set on MSNBC.

Congratulations to Debbie Williams, Classification Coordinator, **BMCX**, on her recent re-certification by the American Correctional Association as a Certified Correction Manager. Debbie was originally certified in 2003 and completed the requirements for re-certification this June. She is one of only 8 professionals in Tennessee to be certified by ACA and has the distinction of being the only TDOC employee to achieve her certification. To learn how you can obtain certification, attend this year's Tennessee Correctional Association Fall Conference.



THANK YOU, TEXIE:



After 15 dedicated years as a volunteer at **NECX**, Mrs. Texie Haga is ready to retire. Warden Howard Carlton and Dick Pleasant presented her with a plaque for her devotion. Mrs. Haga did an outstanding job in the human resources department and will be sadly missed. But at last, she will have more time to enjoy working in her gardens, traveling with her husband who was also a volunteer at NECX in the past and continue their religious dedication. Good Luck, Texie, on your new journey in life!

BACK IN BUSINESS:

NWCX CO Claude Salmon's work crew has completed repairs to the office building at the Reelfoot Lake State Park Campgrounds. A tree fell through the office damaging the roof and walls of the building earlier this year.





Reuben Hodge
Warden

KEEPING IT REAL:

On July 6, Ron Levy with the YMCA toured **MLCC** with 25 boys and girls for a “Keeping it Real” tour. The program draws tremendous community attention.

Warden Reuben Hodge and Deputy Warden Charles Banks led Commissioner Little, Deputy Commissioner Ray, Dr. Linda Nutt, Director of Research and Planning, Tom Robinson, Director of Engineering, and Senator Matt Norris on a recent tour of the facility. The group met with staff and inmates and was pleased with what they saw.

TENNESSEE CORRECTION ACADEMY:

The academy has welcomed its first basic training class of the new fiscal year. 34 correctional officer cadets from eight facilities reported for duty. Special thanks to Executive Administrative Assistant Dennis Talley who conducted a class on inmate grievances.

65 Correctional Officers also attended the Academy’s new Adult Security in-service curriculum this week. Program evaluations completed by the participants were extremely complimentary. In fact, all of the officers indicated they were satisfied with the quality of training and 52 of them (80%) rank the overall training as either Superior or Exceptional.

Some new programs listed include:

Employee Suicide Issues: Prevention and Post-vention

Handcuffing and Escorting Skills Practicum

Generation “Meth”

Making a Positive Impact

Search Skills Practicum

SQUASH THAT!

As you may have noticed, the harvest season is upon us and given the recent good weather, the middle region garden with Sgt. Griffith and the **CBCX** II inmates, are expecting large harvests in the coming weeks. Regional kitchens get ready to receive large quantities of the following items: Squash by the thousands of pounds as well as tomatoes, watermelon and potatoes. Timing is of the essence on fresh produce so get the kitchens ready to enjoy the exceptionally high yields this year!



AND NOW, THE MOMENT YOU'VE ALL BEEN WAITING FOR:

It really was no surprise to most people that those “pretty” legs we showcased last week belonged to none other than Warden David Mills, **MCCX**, and Warden Howard Carlton, **NECX**. Tina Turner should be worried! The winner of our contest is Bruce Westbrook, Deputy Warden, **WCBC**, who will receive an autographed picture of the legs!



In case you missed it!



GIT-R-DONE!

Commissioner Little was the guest speaker at the 17th Annual Homecoming celebration in Spencer, TN. "The Homecoming was a chance for people to renew old friendships and to see new ones develop," Commissioner Little told the local newspaper the "Mountain View". The Commissioner also helped give away a 56" television which had been provided by the GIT-R-DONE fundraising event.



PROFILES IN CORRECTION: The Untold Story.



Regina Webb, Administrative Assistant 1, MCCX.

Say hello and goodbye to Regina, who after 8 years, has decided to leave correction and pursue a career in the medical field. Regina is a life-long resident of Morgan County and has no intention of living anywhere else.

Before being promoted in 1999 at **MCCX**, Regina served as CCO in Classification at **BMCX**. She now plans to go back to school full time in the Ultrasound Diagnostic Program.

Regina is the proud mother of Jerrica -15, Jeremy-13 and Joana-10. They attend school in Wartburg and have kept her strong. Regina graduated from Tennessee Technological University where she earned a Bachelors Degree in

Sociology/Criminal Justice. She says that was made possible by the state fee waiver and her mother and sisters who have encouraged her and helped her with the children.

After much consideration, Regina says it's off to try new things. "I want to thank everyone at both Brushy and Morgan for everything they have done for me and the kindness they have shown me. I will most definitely miss everyone," Regina said. We wish her well!

QUOTES OF THE WEEK:

"Never expect anyone to engage in a behavior that serves your values unless you give that person adequate reason to do so"

-Submitted by Charles Simmons, Deputy Warden, CBCX.

"Talk is cheap because supply exceeds demand"

-Submitted by Flora Holland, Executive Assistant, Central Office

"The harder the battle, the sweeter the victory"